

(12) **United States Patent  
Binder**

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 7,542,554 B2**  
(45) **Date of Patent:** **\*Jun. 2, 2009**

(54) **TELEPHONE OUTLET WITH PACKET  
TELEPHONY ADAPTER, AND A NETWORK  
USING SAME**

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EP 0 824 298 A2 2/1998

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(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 1050 days.

This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

(Continued)

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(21) Appl. No.: **10/469,576**

(22) PCT Filed: **Oct. 15, 2001**

(86) PCT No.: **PCT/IL01/00954**

§ 371 (c)(1),  
(2), (4) Date: **Feb. 12, 2004**

(87) PCT Pub. No.: **WO03/005691**

PCT Pub. Date: **Jan. 16, 2003**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2004/0125819 A1 Jul. 1, 2004

(30) **Foreign Application Priority Data**

Jul. 5, 2001 (IL) ..... 144158

(51) **Int. Cl.**  
**H04M 11/00** (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... 379/90.01; 379/93.05

(58) **Field of Classification Search** ..... 379/90.01,  
379/93.08, 93.05, 93.06, 93.09, 93.28, 442,  
379/399.01, 399.02

See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

An outlet for a Local Area Network (LAN), containing an integrated adapter that converts VoIP to and from analog telephony, and a standard telephone jack (e.g. RJ-11 in North America) for connecting an ordinary analog (POTS) telephone set. Such an outlet allows using analog telephone sets in a VoIP environment, eliminating the need for an IP telephone set or external adapter. The outlet may also include a hub that allows connecting both an analog telephone set via an adapter, as well as retaining the data network connection, which may be accessed by a network jack. The invention may also be applied to a telephone line-based data networking system. In such an environment, the data networking circuitry as well as the VoIP/POTS adapters are integrated into a telephone outlet, providing for regular analog service, VoIP telephony service using an analog telephone set, and data networking as well. In such a configuration, the outlet requires two standard telephone jacks and a data-networking jack. Outlets according to the invention can be used to retrofit existing LAN and in-building telephone wiring, as well as original equipment in new installation.

**88 Claims, 14 Drawing Sheets**

